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No. 3771 P. 2/5
From: CHICK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln No. : 10/056,152
Applicant(s): Takahiro MORI
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For : PRINTING METHOD AND
PRINTING PRESS
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DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

Takahiro MORI, declares that I am the inventor of the invention described and claimed in the above-referenced application.

I graduated from the Faculty of Engineering of Tohoku University in March 1984. Since April of that year, I have been employed by Konica Corporation, the Assignee of the above-referenced application, and have been engaged in research and development in the field of image recording media.

The following experiments were conducted under my guidance and control.

EXPERIMENT

Preparation of test samples

Single-Fluid Inks of Vander Aa was prepared in accordance with the description of the specification of US '013 in [0076] to [0078].

Then, Imaging Material 1 of Vander Aa was prepared in accordance with the description of the specification of US '013 in [0081] to [0088]. Imaging Material 1 is selected because Imaging Material 1 has a similar composition (containing fine polymer particles) to the printing plate precursor (B) used in the present invention.

Printing plate precursors (A) and (B) of the present invention were prepared in accordance with the pages 59 to 62 of the present specification.

Printing plate precursor (A) contains wax particles.

Printing plate precursor (B) contains fine polymer particles.

The same evaluation method as Example 2 of the present specification was applied for the following combinations.

No. 1: Single-Fluid Ink + Imaging Material 1

No. 2: Single-Fluid Ink + Printing plate precursor (A)

No. 3: Single-Fluid Ink + Printing plate precursor (B)

The number of paper needed for the rise in printing, was obtained and listed in Table I.

In order to demonstrate a superior effect of the present invention, the evaluation result obtained from Example 2 described in page 65, lines 9 to 12 of the present specification is also listed in the same table.

Table I

Experiment	Ink and Printing Material ...	Number of paper needed for the rise in printing; (*)
No. 1	Single-Fluid Ink + Imaging Material 1	45 (1.8)
No. 2	Single-Fluid Ink + Printing plate precursor (A)	35 (1.4)
No. 3	Single-Fluid Ink + Printing plate precursor (B)	40 (1.6)
Example 2 of the present invention	Emulsion ink (water%: 40 wt%) - Printing plate precursor (B)	25 (1.0)

(*): the figure in the parenthesis is a ratio based on the number of paper obtained by Example 2 of the present invention

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As is clearly demonstrated by Table I, the combined usage of the printing plate precursor and the emulsion ink of the present invention (Example 2) proved to show an unexpectedly superior effect compared with the combination the ink of US '013 and the printing materials (No. 1-3).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date: October 24, 2003

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